

## Narratives

WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
4311 JACKSON STREET  
OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN 54901  
9202367300Q

Incident Number: WI63-000255

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ENTERED DATE/TIME: 2/21/2012 00:00:00

NARRATIVE TYPE: SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE

SUBJECT: 07/01/63 - MCKINNON, MICHAEL - INTERVIEW

July 1, 1963 3:00 P.M.

Mike McKinnon

Mike was interviewed again at the Sheriff's Office by Officer Fuller. Mike was presented with the facts that were told to us by #45 (Sheriff's officer) and was given an opportunity to straighten out his story about the activities on the night of June 12, 1963.

Mike insists that the original information he gave to Fuller is the truth to the best of his knowledge. He is positive that there was no other car in the station while he was in there. He does not recall seeing even Pratt's own car or the old Buick that was sitting there. He says it is not so about him talking to Mrs. Pratt and that he was only in the station about 5-minutes. He never backed his car up beside the house as reported. He knows nothing about any affair involving Wayne Pratt and any other woman [REDACTED], except for the one Wayne used to go with before he was married. This girl could have been either Marlene Diellechek or Sandy Wessenberg. At this time Wayne drove an Edsel.

Mike insists that if he had any information about this, he surely would come forward with it. He admits trying to sell his car to his brother for about \$1700.00. He is going into the Army and took his physical on May 27, 1963. He is now waiting for word as to where to report for duty. He supposedly may be called by July 11, 1963. He enlisted for three years and is to go to school for X-rays or Operating Room Tech.

Mike recalls that he may have dropped a remark which may have led people to believe that he could have been at the station at a later hour; possibly around 8:30 p.m., but after thinking about this, he recalled that it couldn't have been that late because his date was at 7:30 p.m. and if Mike is late for a date, which he usually is, it strikes a sore spot in his girlfriend. This night he was almost on time.

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NARRATIVE TYPE: SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE

SUBJECT: 07/07/63 - MADZINSKI, MARK - INTERVIEW

Mark Madzinski  
[REDACTED]

The bookkeeper that took care of Wayne Pratt's books, who is an employee of Mark Madzinski, was interviewed 07/01/63 by Lt. Richard Guenther at his hoffice in Green Bay. He stated that they kept Wayne Pratt's books until August 1962 and they also prepared his income tax for 1962.

He stated that Wayne never gave them complete information to make a good profits and loss statement. Wayne, according to his books, didn't make too much money. His gross profit for 1962 was approximately \$4500.00 and his net about \$3000.00. He listed a shortage of about \$300.00 for the year and the balance was cost of operation. He operated below the usual profit for a filling station, but the fact that he performed very few services and received little for labor could account for this.

Although the records are poor, it would appear that no great shortages are there as the amount of gross profit on gas was an actual figure taken from invoices and anything above and beyond that would have come from the sale of accessories etc. and this would show up as a deficit in unpaid bills and loans. There is no doubt that he has both, but there appears to be no rapid accumulation of this from his books. With the lack of information given to the bookkeeper by Wayne, it is difficult to draw any conclusions from them.

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ENTERED DATE/TIME: 2/22/2012 00:00:00  
NARRATIVE TYPE: SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE  
SUBJECT: 07/02/61 - PRATT, CLARENCE MRS. - INTERVIEW

Mrs. Clarence Pratt

Mrs. Clarence Pratt was interviewed 07/02/63 by Lt. Richard Guenther at her home. She stated that she was very close to Wayne and often talked to Wayne alone at the station because she he was there and everyone was gone, he was lonesome and often called her to come down to the station. She feels that if he had any problems that he would have told her first, but she knows of no problems of a serious nature that Wayne had other than he didn't make much money.

Marie wasn't too happy about his not making too much money and often nagged him about it. Wayne had told his mother that Marie had been nagging him about it for about six months. She stated that besides this, she knew of no problem that Marie and Wayne had.

The first time she saw Wayne was the Sunday before. He was in a good mood because business was picking up. As to the people that were around the station, Wayne's brother and his mother said that a Eugene Lehr, who is a relative, had been around the station recently. Eugene Lehr is the son of Margaret Pratt who is now Margaret Lehner and Lehner used to run a tavern on lower Main St. Also, a David Conger was a good friend of Waynes and was trying to sell him some advertising on a stock car and may have been out there talking to Wayne shortly before (a few days) this happened.

As to the day of June 12, 1963, Clarence Pratt was not working that day and had been home all day painting the inside of the house with his son. He had just finished one room when the officer came to the house and advised him that his son was hurt. Mrs. Pratt didn't know that Wayne was dead until some time later when Clarence came home and they told her.

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ENTERED DATE/TIME: 2/23/2012 00:00:00

NARRATIVE TYPE: SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE

SUBJECT: 07/03/63 - HESSEL, ELIZABETH - INTERVIEW

July 3, 1963 12:45 P.M.

Miss Elizabeth Francis Hessel

[REDACTED]

Betty has been going with Mike for about 2 months now. They are engaged now and plan on getting married at a later date. Mike is joining the Army and had his physical tests last month. This was on a Monday before June 12th.

Betty is sure that on the night of June 12th, 1963 Mike came to pick her up and that it couldn't have been after 20 minutes to 8:00 p.m. at the very latest. She recalls that it was still broad daylight and that they sat on the porch and waited for Jane's boyfriend Jim to come before they went out on a double date. Mike mentioned that he didn't actually know Wayne Pratt, but just knew who he was.

She recalls that about quarter of ten minutes to 8:00 Jim came and then all four of them went out to the Loft. Betty and Mike went in Mike's car about right after Jim came, 8:00 p.m. at the latest. Jim and Jane left at the same time in Jim's car. This is a yellow Ford, 1955 or 1956 2-door. They followed them right out the Loft and all four of them stayed there until about 10:00 p.m. This could have been the very earliest that they left the Loft Tavern. Betty is sure of these times to within 10 or 15 minutes at the most.

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NARRATIVE TYPE: SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE

SUBJECT: 07/03/63 - SLABY, JANE - INTERVIEW

July 3, 1963 1:50 P.M.

Jane Slaby [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Jane recalls that on the night of June 12, 1963 they had a double date and that they got out to the Loft at 8:00 p.m. or shortly after. Mike was supposed to pick up Betty at 7:30 p.m. and Jim was supposed to be there at 7:45 p.m., as close as she can remember. Mike got to the house on that night on time for the date and no more than a couple of minutes late.

Betty was questioned a lot about these times and is positive of these times. Mike called Betty the next day and told her that he had been in the station.

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NARRATIVE TYPE: SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE

SUBJECT: 07/03/63 - GREENFIELD, BILL - INTERVIEW

July 3, 1963

Bill Greenfield

Michael McKinnon told his mother that he was the white car that they wanted, but he was afraid. Supposedly was in station for 30 or 40 minutes. He supposedly left when the blue and white car pulled in. Backup by the house and talked to Mrs. Pratt. Supposed to have been in there at 10 minutes to 9:00 p.m. Mike is supposed to know of some affair that Wayne was in [REDACTED] Mike supposed to have known a lot about Wayne. Wayne was supposed to have been very winey. Mike made an issue of being by the Pratt house.

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ENTERED DATE/TIME: 2/23/2012 00:00:00

NARRATIVE TYPE: SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE

SUBJECT: 07/03/63 - WEDELSTADT, JAMES - SEARCH PERMISSION

July 3, 1963

James R. Wedelstadt here by give permission to Lt. Richard Guenther and Officer Wilbur Fuller to enter and search the apt. at [REDACTED] rented in the name of James R. Wedelstadt.

Signed

James R. Wedelstadt

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NARRATIVE TYPE: SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE

SUBJECT: 07/03/63 - FRANK, ROBERT - INTERVIEW

Robert H. Frank, 

Robert Frank was interviewed by Officer Wilbur Fuller again on 07/03/63. He recalls again as he approached the station he saw this man get into a 1957 Ford. This man came out of the station at a real fast walk and got into the Ford. He is sure of this Ford. It had an arctic white top and a medium blue bottom. The description is like what he told us before as the person he saw. Frank did not see this man carrying anything.

This car was parked with its rear end by the northeast corner of the station. It was closer to the station and not pulled up by the gas pumps. It puzzled Robert about the car because the fins did not stick out like a '57 usually does. It looked like the fins had been cut down.

Robert went on past the station and all at once the Ford went wheeling by him. He went past him at a high rate of speed, probably around 65 or 70 MPH. He was not yet by the farm house on the left. Maybe about half way between the farm house and the new one almost across from the station.

By the time Robert got up to the cheese factory, the Ford was out of sight. Robert continued on north and some place just south of CTH "G" he passed a 1951 powder blue Buick, solid color, cleaned up. He doesn't recall if there were any plates on the car. This car hung low in the front and the back end stuck way up in the air. This car was going about 35 to 37 MPH when Robert passed him.

As he went past the Buick, Robert noticed that this man had a wad o money in his left hand. He was counting this money and it appeared to Robert that this man was steering with his elbows. The wad of money appeared to be about 1 ½ inches in thickness.

This man was described as being on the thin side. He doesn't think that he was a real young fellow nor des he think that it was an older man. He may have had on some work clothes. As Frank came up behind this car, the man sort of tilted his head and he had on a tan work cap. Frank saw this through the rear window of the car. When Robert was beside the car, he could not see the man's face. He thinks that the man had on a tan shirt, and some bare arm was sticking out. The sleeves may have been rolled up a couple of rolls.

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SUBJECT: 07/03/63 - PITT, MARIE - INTERVIEW

Mrs. Marie Pitt  
[REDACTED]

Mrs. Marie Pitt was interviewed 07/03/63 by Lt. Richard Guenther with Sheriff Atkinson of Marquette Co. present. Mrs. Pitt stated that they moved to the place where they are living now on June 8th, 9th, or 10th and that they had moved from [REDACTED]

Harvey had an old Plymouth which he disposed of on the 10th or 11th. He also had a 1955 Hudson, salmon and white, which has now been repossessed by the Thorp Finance Co. of Berlin.

On either June 12th or 13th, he bought the 51 Studebaker from Baer Pontiac at Wautoma. He paid \$40.00 down and still owns \$35.00, but the car has been returned to Baer Pontiac. The night that Harvey bought the car, he came home somewhere around Midnights and Charles Emerson, her son, was with him.

She recalls that on the days he started to work for Lawrence Grant, which was about June 11th, that he never left home until after chores were done and this was between 8:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. She said that he usually told her what he had done and where he had been, but he never told her about ever going into the Oshkosh area.

As far as she knew, Harvey didn't have a knife other than an old jackknife. Her son Charles however had two knives which she showed us. Number 1 was a steak knife with a new handle on it which Charles had just put on. Number 2 was a hunting knife. She said that as far as she knew neither of these knives were ever carried by Charles as he didn't have a sheath for either of them.

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NARRATIVE TYPE: SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE

SUBJECT: 07/05/63 - VOGEL, ARHAND - INTERVIEW

Arhand Vogel [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Arhand was advised that he does not have to answer any of Officer Fuller's questions and that anything he tells him could be used in court against him. He was interviewed by Officer Fuller at the State Hospital on July 5, 1963 at 12 o'clock Noon.

Arhand stated that on the evening of June 26, 1963 they were all outside playing baseball. He and Casperson, Olson, and Casey all took off together. They left the baseball field and hid in a woods until dark. Casey went to a different woods and his, and Olson stayed with Terry and Arhand until it was dark. After dark Terry and Arhand left together and Olson went a different way.

Arhand recalls that they just walked down a road until they saw a farm house and saw this truck sitting in the yard. When they saw the truck they discovered that the keys were in the truck. They figured that this was a quick way to get out of here. Before that they had planned on hitchhiking to Kansas [REDACTED] Arhand's school mates live there. Terry was going to [REDACTED] Arhand recalls that they got into the truck and Terry drove. They drove it right off the yard.

They drove up to Neenah and Menasha, went through the cities, and got onto Hwy 10 northeast of Menasha. They stopped for gas in Menasha and again close to Minnesota. They traveled Hwy 10 almost all the way out there. They took the license plates off the truck and hid them in a woods near where they dumped the truck. When they got to Alama, Wis they decided to get rid of the truck. They were on the road and by the side of the road was a sharp drop off. They set a match to the seat in the truck and pushed it off the side of the road, down the embankment. The truck went off the embankment and burned up by the bottom. They hitchhiked up the highway and gave themselves up just south of Red Wing, Minnesota.

Arhand gave this statement to clear his conscience and feels that when he gets out of here he would be interested in helping to pay for the truck.

Statement taken by Officer Wilber Fuller. This is true to the best of Arhand's memory.

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I have read the two page of this statement and certify it to be true to the best of my knowledge.

Arhand Vogel

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